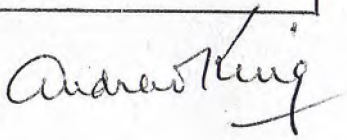
# The CANADIAN PHILATELIST

## JULY

Beginning

**Early Canadian Stamps.**



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A correspondent says that the current stamps of the United States are being printed on a chalk surfaced paper, a chalk wash being used to assist the drying of it after printing. This wash is applied at the time of moistening the paper, as is done to print from engraved plates, and it is being done, as stated above, to assist the drying, and also to decrease the shrinkage of the paper. So now we have four papers to look out for: the original white, the blue experimental, the so called "china clay, and the new chalk surface.

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# Western Collectors.

## No. 4.—MRS. LILY McILLREE.

Mrs. McIllree is without doubt Regina's premier collector, having one of the best collections in the west. Her Canadian collection is complete, with the exception of the 12 pence. She has all the V.R.I. Boer war stamps, including the rare 6d. carmine, O.F.S. and 5 shillings Transvaal; all the Leeward Isle, 1897 Jubilee; all the Seychelles up to the King's Head mult. W. M. Among other interesting things in her collection is a "King Edward VII Land" stamp, surcharged by the New Zealand Government for Sir E. Shackleton, and stamped by him on board the "Nimrod" in the area of "King Edward VII Land," and cancelled "British Antarctic X P D" and date and hour, on one of their special envelopes, which was given to Mrs. McIllree by Lady Shackleton herself. Those who have seen the collection, claim it to be the best collection between Winnipeg and the coast.

Mrs. McIllree was born in Cavan Co., Ireland, coming to Canada in 1884, when she married J. H. McIllree, who had been in the R.N.W.M. Police since that force was formed in 1873, and who has now been Assistant Commissioner for nearly 18 years, being stationed at Regina, Sask.

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The Canadian Philatelist

Vol. 1. Rouleau, Sask., July 15, 1910 No. 4

# EARLY CANADIAN STAMPS

THE exhaustive work by Mr. Donald King in Gibbon's Monthly Journal in 1896, says Mr. F. F. Lamb, in the Philatelic Journal of Great Britain, has left little new to be said upon the subject.

"So little has been written about the stamps of Canada during the last few years, that perhaps my notes, on that account alone, may be welcomed by many of my readers who are interested in these stamps."

Remarking that Mr. King, "has left collectors and specialists in Canadian stamps no undiscovered data to work upon, Mr. King's article not only contained extracts from many official documents, but included a most elaborate and carefully worked out check list of the different varieties, so that, as I have already stated, it is practically an impossibility for any present day writer to give his readers any fresh information. In the hope, however, that my article may prove of interest to some of my readers—many of whom are unable to refer easily to back numbers of the Monthly Journal, I will give a brief resume of the postal history of Canada before the Dominion was formed in 1868. I have collected these stamps for a good many years and find them an exceptionally interesting study.

"The first official notice which I can find referring to the actual issuing of the first Canadian stamps is reproduced in Mr. King's article in the Monthly Journal. It reads as follows:

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

Toronto, 1st April, 1851

Stamps for the prepayment of postage on letters.

Postage stamps are about to be issued, one representing the beaver, of the denomination of 3 pence; the second representing the head of Prince Albert, of the denomination of 6 pence; and the third representing the head of Her Majesty, of the denomination of 1 shilling, which will shortly be transmitted to the postmasters at important points.

"The stamps mentioned in the above official notice were necessary to prepay the then existing rates of postage, as we find on reference to the following extract from the Postmaster General's report for 1851, reads as follows:

On letters not exceeding half an ounce in weight, to any part of British North America, threepence; more than half an ounce and not exceeding one ounce, sixpence, (and so on). On letters between Canada and the United Kingdom not exceeding half an ounce one shilling ster-

ling (equal to 1s. 1½d. currency). On letters to Newfoundland, Bermuda, and the West Indies, the rate is one shilling per half ounce.

"The printers of the first Canadian stamps were the firm of Messrs. Rawdon, Wright, Hatch and Edson, of New York, who were already well known as the engravers of the handsome 1847 issue of the United States. The stamps were engraved in taille douce in sheets of 100, tens rows of ten, while the maker's name appeared twice on each margin.

"The paper on which these stamps were printed varies little in texture; it is of a thin nature, showing traces of laid lines. Later supplies of these stamps, together with the new values, were printed on many kinds of paper and it is owing to this fact, that, modest as is the catalogue list there are already no fewer than seventeen varieties listed of the imperf. stamps. Mr. Donald King in his monumental article lists many more varieties of paper than does Gibbon's catalogue, but I think that the latter publication contains enough to satisfy the average collector.

"The first instalment of stamps from Messrs. Rawdon, Wright, Hatch, Hatch & Edson, consisted of

250,000 of the 3d. value.
100,000 of the 6d. value.
51,400 of the 1s. value.

and were printed on thin laid paper. This consignment contained all the 1s. stamps that were ever printed for postal use as this value was found to have but a limited sale, so much so that no more were printed, and by far the greatest number of those sent to Canada were destroyed with the remainders.

"Copies of the 1s. value are known on wove paper, but they are specimen stamps; they we usually overprinted with t word "Specimen" in red, but occassionally some enterprising faker has worked hard and almost obliterated this overprint.

"There is little to be said about these three values, the 12d. black is an exceptionally scarce stamp, and fine copies are always in demand, their value naturally resting on their condition. I see that at the recently held sale of the late Mr. Seybold's collection of stamps on original covers, a copy of this stamp, with blue cancellation, "Hamilton, Nov. 23rd, 1853," realized £105 15s., while a second copy, also with a blue cancellation, "Dec. 8t 1853," realized £73 18s. 6d., (vide London Philatelist, April 1910). Evidently the second copy was very much inferior in condition to the one that fetched catalogue and a half.

"The 3d. and 6d. values are comparitively quite common in a used condition and vary but little in shade. Messrs. Collin and Calman in their catalogue for advanced collectors say that

the 6d. stamp is known divided diagonally and each half used as a 3d. label.

"In Mr. King's article I find that he makes a second extract, relating to postal charges, from the Postmaster-General's report:

In March, 1854, the charge on packet letters between Canada and the United Kingdom (and most foreign countries was reduced by the Imperial government, from 1s. 2d. sterling to 8d. sterling the ½ oz. when sent in the closed mails through the United States and from 1s. sterling to 6d. when sent direct from a provincial port—Quebec and Halifax. Should no further changes be likely soon to take place in the charges on the correspondence with England, it would promote the public convenience to procure postage stamps of the value of 10d. and 7½d. respectively, to correspond with the present packet charges.'

(To be continued)

## A Used New Brunswick Connell!

"LOOKING over a collection recently of rare old British North American stamps the writer was shown a perfect used specimen of the rare Connell stamp. Pasted under the stamp was an affidavit made before a commissioner by the person that received it through the post, stating it was received by him in the ordinary course through the mail. The owner of this rarity says he has seen a complete sheet of this stamp unused and knows the owner. As Whitfield, King & Co., do not list this stamp in used condition I shall be glad to know if any readers of The Canadian Philatelist have ever seen or heard of a used specimen."

PHILATECUS.

[This particular stamp has a history of its own, and I shall be glad to hear if any of our readers have a used specimen.

A certain gentleman, the Hon. Charles Connell, was Postmaster-General of the colony, when it was decided to change the currency from pence to cents. The hon. gentleman was requested to see to the supply of the necessary stamps so accordingly he ordered supplies of 1c, 5c, 10c and 12½c. Like the hero of Mafeking, Baden-Powell, and being of rather a vain disposition, arranged to have his own features upon the 5c. The necessary arrangements had all been made for the issue of the new stamps and the withdrawal of the pence issue, when the news leaked out that one of the stamps bore the likeness of Postmaster-General. The Cabinet hurriedly met, discussed the matter, and claimed

(Continued on Page 44)

# The Canadian Philatelist

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Edited by Stephen Golder.

Andrew King, Publisher, Rouleau, Sask.

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## A Valuable Find

AN old-time collector, of Regina, has just had a magnificent parcel of old English stamps submitted to him for sale by a lawyer in England. Amongst the gems of this collection are 108 Mulready penny covers, among which may be noted the following dates:

Red Maltese Cross Cancellation—

1840, May 16, 30
June 3, 11
July 4, 11, 25.
Sept. 5.

1841, Jan. 5, 7, 12, 16, 21, 29.
Feb. 1, 8.

Black Maltese Cross Cancellation—

1841, Feb. 11, 21, 24.
Mar. 2, 16, 23, 29.
Apl. 5, 12, 16.
Oct. 27, 30.
Nov. 2, 6, 11, 16, 18, 20.
Dec. 16, 24.

1842, Jan. 5, 17, 19.
Oct. 31.
Nov. 2, 7, 26
Dec. 16.

1843, Mar. 22
Apl. 18.
May 4, 10
June 1.
July 19, 27, 29.

1844, Jan. 22.

Over one thousand "ship letters" bearing the early markings in use before the day of stamps or Mulready's, several thousand black and red penny's, some two penny's and a few of the embossed stamps.

Anyone caring to make an offer for this parcel can address the Editor, who has personally inspected this valuable parcel.

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THE Editor craves the indulgence of his many stamp collecting friends for delay in replying and returning exchange stamps. He is at present away on a lenthy motor car tour through the northern parts of Saskatchewan and Alberta, and finds it impossible to keep in touch with his mail.

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THE history of the postage stamp dates back no further than 1840. To England belongs the honor of its invention,

the first postage stamp having been introduced to the British Government. At the present time stamps are issued all the world over, and their variety is practically endless. Stamp collectors are to be numbered by millions, largely circulated journals are conducted in their interests, and occasional articles appear in such recognized leaders of public opinion as the London Times and Daily Telegraph.

The word philately, it may be explained, is derived from the Greek philos, "fond of," and atelia, "exempt from tax." As stamps denote the prepayment of the tax, they signify exemption from tax, and the word hence comes to bear the meaning "fondness for stamps."

While philately is delightful as an amusement, having a fascination for young and old, it is hardly possible to over estimate the benefit to be derived from its pursuit, always providing that it is taken up in an intelligent spirit, not merely with the object of amassing and possessing so many stamps, but also of studying and understanding them. Rightly undertaken, stamp collecting may be productive of much intelligent pleasure; it is valuable as giving a practical acquaintance with geography, with side lights on the history of states; the minute attention to detail necessary in determining the different varties brings the critical powers into play. Then, again, if a collection of stamps is carefully and judiciously formed, its commercial value will increase greatly in the course of a few years, so that stamp collecting has this advantage over most pastimes, that the money laid out on it is not lost in the spending, as the collection may be made a safe investment, and if kept for some time it may be made a source of great profit should the owner be so disposed.

As an instance of what has been done in this. Mr. Hughes-Hughes, who sold his collection in 1890 for $15,000, said he only spent about $350 on it, but that it had been laid aside for years, and its value had so grown as to produce this handsome return.

The writer bitterly regrets disposing of his first collection some ten years ago for $250—the same would now easily have fetched $5,000. Another friend a well-known police magistrate in Buluwayo, disposed of a valuable and unique collection of African stamps that had taken him many years to get together. I never knew the exact figure realized, but I do know he got married on the proceeds, and took a six month's honeymoon to Europe, and on his return had enough stamp money left to furnish a nice house. I asked him once "if he regretted selling out." "Oh, no," he replied, "I have started again, and shall dispose of my next collection in about 15 years and

use the money for sending my boy to Oxford."

Of course the foundation of a collection likely to become of great value requires somewhat wide experience and foresight, but all things must have a beginning, and the inexperienced collector may be assured that if he starts his collection in a careful manner his money will at any rate not be thrown away.

A WRITER in "The Postage Stamp" says: "As to the catalogue prices of the Canadian pence series, taken as a whole they are much underpriced. This is no rash statement but a solid fact. Taking auction prices as statistics every one of the pence issues in good condition is a safe investment at catalogue rates."

RUMOR says that the four penny orange stamp of Great Britain issued last year will be discontinued and a new shade of color adopted. The orange color is similar to carmine in artificial light, that it is confused with the penny stamp at night, and objected to by post-office clerks.

YOU say that you can tell the history of a nation by its postage stamps. You can in the case of Great Britain. You can see the sordid material spirit of the age exemplifying itself in its stamps, its trampling of artistic and the higher tastes to attain the by-word of our civilization, cheapness, 'cheapness, cheapness. This is now a moment occasioned by the sad death of our beloved King, for protest against the quality of the stamps we have been using, and a request that the new series bearing the portrait of King George V. may be improved in every respect, and the greatest nation of the world may be able to point with some pride to its series of postage stamps. —The Postage Stamp.

DURING the first fifteen years of their existence over 3,000,000,000 stamps were required to supply the demand in Great Britain. So general are the postal needs of to-day that the annual supply of stamps in Britain amounts to over seven thousand millions.

Tell your collector friends about The Canadian Philatelist.

## A Used New Brunswick Connell

(Continued from Page 41)

a right of approving the designs, so the Connell stamp was condemned and a new issue prepared, bearing a portrait of the Queen. Connell, unlike Baden-Powell, was easily overcome and after his official condemnation resigned his position and retired disgusted into private life.—Ed.]

# Love versus Stamps.

By BERTHA C. FOSTER.

"I WANT a real holiday, Jack. It is ages since we have been away together. Surely you can get off this summer?"

He raised his head, and looked at her with blinking, near-sighted eyes.

"Not until September, dear. wo of the staff will be away during August, and I could not leave then, but I was thinking we might manage a week or so abroad—in Switzerland, eh?"

She clapped her hands.

"That would be delightful," she cried.

He smiled at her genuine pleasure.

"We could be in Berne for the International Philatelic Exhibition," he added.

Immediately her face fell, and her mouth hardened.

"Is that why you want to go to Switzerland?" she exclaimed. "I might have guessed it was something to do with stamps!"

With a gesture of extreme annoyance she flung herself out of the room.

Jack Meadows sighed, then turned back to his work with a careless shrug of his shoulders.

It was always the way when stamps were mentioned. Mrs. Jack Meadows was jealous—wildly jealous—of her husband's devotion to his collection. During the first few months of their married life she had attempted to take some interest in her husband's hobby, but when he threw up his Government position in order to edit a philatelic journal, and spent practically all his time pouring over stamp news and stamp collections, she began to grow weary of the task. As the months passed her ennui changed to positive dislike. In her opinion Jack was simply wasting his time, and devoting hours which might have been spent with her, to his senseless collection. She refused to see that the collection represented a very substantial nest egg, which Jack was carefully saving up for her, and did not understand that it was a splendid investment. She was quite unreasonable and foolish, and succeeded in making herself very unhappy over what should have been a source of pleasure. She persuaded herself that she was a much neglected wife, and that her husband was wickedly extravagent and selfish.

It happened that night that Jack was called away hastily, and left a valuable book of exchanges belonging to a friend, open on his table. Mrs. Meadows came into the study, still smarting under the new grievance of the proposed holiday at Berne. She took the book up

and looked at the stamps, carelessly—fancying they belonged to her husband. She knew enough to realize they were worth a considerable sum, but just how much she had no idea. With a sudden wave of unreasoning, childish anger, she tossed the little volume into the fire!

Immediately the deed was done she would have cut off her hand to get it back—but it was too late. Jack was a chilly mortal, and though it was June a bright little fire burned in his grate. With horrible rapidity the flames ate up the thin paper and with fascinated eyes she watched the last charred embers disappear up the chimney. Just at that moment, Jack's footstep sounded in the hall.

"Well," he said cheerfully, forgetting the little unpleasantness of an hour ago, "the fire looks cheerful, and it is good to find you waiting in my den, little woman! It is like old times, eh? You always came to meet me then, didn't you?"

His voice had no sound of reproach, but there was just a tinge of sadness in it. A pang of remorse smote her. She turned turned him, her face raised to his, forgetting everything except that this was her husband—the one man she loved.

At the end of another hour Jack turned back to his writing table. Where were the stamps? Surely he had left them lying there? His wife saw the anxious look in his eyes—saw—and remembered! With a look of piteous entreaty she laid her hand on his arm.

"Jack,—I—I burned them," she faltered.

"Burned them?" His voice was loud with horror. "Good Heavens! Were you mad?"

"I was angry because you seem to care more for your stamps than you do for me," she stammered, "and even when we go away for a holiday you want to go to a philatelic exhibition."

He laughed bitterly.

"There will be no holiday this year," he said, roughly, "Those exchanges were valued at five hundred dollars, which will take all the cash I could have spent on our trip. You have indeed had your revenge."

Taking up his hat he went out, slamming the door behind him.

* * *

The next evening a crushed and penitent wife met him in the hall, and thrust a check for $500 into his hand.

"How on earth did you get that?" he gasped.

"Never mind," she said, a little breathlessly. "I got it quite honestly, and promise me you will take me to Berne, for the Philatelic Exhibition in September."

"Not unless you tell me where and how you raised this money?"

He looked down, suddenly, at her hand. A valuable diamond ring, which had belonged to her mother had gone.

"Darling — darling," he cried, "do you think I would let you make a sacrifice like that?"

For answer she threw herself into his arms.

"Better to sacrifice anything than to lose your love," she sobbed.

Gently he drew her towards him.

"There was never any danger of that, sweetheart. Now tell me where that ring was sold, and we will go at once and get it back. Then we will start saving up, ever so hard, and perhaps we may get our holiday, after all."

* * *

That was the end of Mrs. Jack Meadow's jealousy of her husband's postage stamps. But whether they got to Switzerland in September or not—time will show.

## Forgeries in Stamps

A BEGINNER in stamp collecting is sometimes distressed as to the likelihood of his acquiring forged specimens, but it should be some comfort to him to reflect that it is not usually worth a forger's time and trouble to make imitations of very common stamps and the probability is great that the first 2,000 stamps a beginner is likely to gather will prove to be genuine specimens. Spurious copies exist chiefly among the rarer kinds of stamps, and by the time the beginner has entered this field he will have probably become sufficiently acquainted with the look of a genuine stamp to be able to detect a forgery at its first appearance. A collector usually studies his stamps with a certain amount of zeal, and this zealous study is certain to be of use to him in time to come. To an eye that has been accustomed for some time to the sight of genuine stamps a forged specimen will at once stand out as being "something different," and since a good percentage of forged stamps are but clumsy imitations, their detection should be swift in the hands of a collector with, say, a couple of years' experience.

Still, it has to be remembered that dangerous forgeries of better-class stamps do exist. Recently the writer has handled two beautiful triangular Cape of Good Hope stamps, a pair of copies possessing every appearance of genuineness, but an expert to whom they were submitted declared them to be "no good." A correspondent also ruefully announces that he has come into possession of a sheet of spurious Japanese. Where a collector is plunging into deep water and adding things of unusual value to his store, he is

wise in buying warily, and where the slightest suspicion exists as to the genuineness of any contemplated purchase, the safest plan is to send the specimen to an expert for examination.—J.W.H.H., in the Bazaar.

Montreal, July 13.—Postage stamps to the face value of $400,000 were seized this morning by Federal Inspector Giroux. The stamps were of the value of 25c and 50c and $1.00, and were exhibited for sale at two second hand stores on Craig St. east. According to the dealers the stamps were in a valise which was bought at an auction sale, supposed to contain unclaimed goods, without knowing the contents.

The stamps which bear the words "U.S.A. Post Office, Labrador," do not seem to be genuine, but appear as sample imitations put on the stamp market and bought by young collectors. They show part of the eastern map of Canada violet red, with Labrador Territory light gray. A communication was sent out and the U.S. government will be notified of the seizure.

The Postmaster-General has addressed a warning to a postmaster for refusing to allow employees belonging to the National Guard to attend to the military duties. His attention is called to a resolution that authorizes leave of absence without pay to postal employees when called upon to perform military duty.


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